

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12915 071339Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FAA-00
/099 W

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R 071332Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2708
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL MONTREAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12915

MONTREAL FOR ICAO REP

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, US, KS, PEPR, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET MFA KOREAN DESK OFFICER DISCUSSES KAL
INCIDENT

REF: (A) MOSCOW 9923, (B) MOSCOW 10545

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON SOVIET MFA KOREAN DESK OFFICER AND
DEPUTY CHIEF, FIRST FAR EAST DEPT., Y. D. FADEYEV, ON
JUNE 6. FADEYEV BEGAN THE MEETING BY HANDING EMBOFF
ENVELOPE CONTAINING ROK PASSPORT OF TAI-HWAN BAHNG, ONE
OF THE TWO PASSENGERS KILLED IN KOREAN AIRLINES INCIDENT.
FADEYEV RECOUNTED THAT BAHNG'S REMAINS AND HIS POSSES-
SIONS HAD BEEN HANDED OVER, ALONG WITH THE OTHER
PASSENGERS OF THE DOWNED AIRCRAFT, TO US AUTHORITIES
EARLIER. HE PROFESSED IGNORANCE OVER THE DELAY IN THE
RETURN OF THE PASSPORT, AND HE ASKED THAT EMBOFF, AS
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 12915 071339Z

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE "MIDDLE" (SREDNIY) POWER,
TRANSMIT THE PASSPORT TO ROK AUTHORITIES. EMBOFF
NOTED THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS IN A POSITION TO RETURN
THE PASSPORT DIRECTLY TO ROK AUTHORITIES, FOR EXAMPLE,
AT THE U.N. FADEYEV SAID THAT THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE SINCE
THE USSR DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE ROK. EMBOFF THEN TOOK
THE PASSPORT, STATING THAT IT WOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO

ROK AUTHORITIES, AS REQUESTED.

2. FADEYEV (WHO IS ALWAYS VERY CAREFUL AND EXACT WITH HIS WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS) MOVED ON TO THE TOPIC OF PRESIDENT PARK'S STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION TO THE USSR. FADEYEV SMILED AND SAID THAT HE HAD NOTED THIS EXPRESSION OF THANKS IN THE KOREAN PRESS EVEN THOUGH IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN TRANSMITTED TO MOSCOW DIRECTLY GIVEN THE LACK OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HE THEN EXCLAIMED THAT THE KOREAN AIRLINES INCIDENT SEEMED TO HAVE ENDED. EMBOFF STATED HIS IMPRESSION THAT THERE WERE STILL MATTERS TO BE CLEARED UP AND THERE IS SOME DISCUSSION BY THE ICAO BY INTERESTED PARTIES. FADEYEV QUICKLY TURNED GLUM AND STERNLY RESPONDED THAT THE KOREAN AIRLINES AIRCRAFT HAD "VIOLATED" (NARUSHIL) SOVIET SOVEREIGNTY BY "PENETRATING SOVIET AIRSPACE". THE INCIDENT, HE FIRMLY EMPHASIZED, DOES NOT THEREFORE FALL WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE ICAO CHARTER, AND THE ICAO IS "NOT QUALIFIED" TO CONSIDER IT.

3. (COMMENT: FADEYEV'S STATEMENTS CLEARLY INDICATE THAT MOSCOW WILL RESIST ANY ICAO EFFORTS TO LOOK INTO THE KAL INCIDENT. FADEYEV'S STATEMENTS ALSO ARE THE KAL INVESTIGATION IS CLOSED AND WILL NOT BE RE-OPENED. END COMMENT.)

4. WE ARE POUCHING BAHNG'S PASSPORT TO US EMBASSY, SEOUL. FADEYEV'S COMMENTS OTHER KOREA-RELATED TOPICS REPORTED SEPTTEL. MATLOCK
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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 12915 071339Z

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Message Attributes

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